(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, 225 Solar Pumps have been financed by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Wasteland Devleopment Scheme in U.P.

1627. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a detailed scheme for Wasteland development was proposed to be launched in 19 districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the status thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has been launched; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (d) No such specific scheme named "Wasteland Development" was proposed to be launched in 19 districts of Uttar Paradesh. However, the Department of Wastelands Development is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Project scheme throughout the country for development of non-forest wastelands. Under this scheme area based projects are prepared and submitted by the District Rural Development Agencies for approval under the Guidelines of Watershed Development. Under this scheme, 38 project proposals under Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme were received from Uttar Pradesh. Out of which 16 project proposals were sanctioned under the Guidelines for Watershed Development. Three project proposals were returned as they were not as per the Guidelines. In Four project proposals, further clarifications are awaited from DRDAs. Fifteen project proposals are under examination.

Wasteland Development Scheme

1628. SHRI N. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made by National Wastelands Development Board during the last two years;

(b) the States successful in developing wastelands; and

(c) the status report on the performance of Tamilnadu State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) The National Wastelands Development Board is implementing the following Plan Schemes for development of non-forest wastelands:—

(i) Integrated Wastelands Development Project (IWDP) Scheme

(ii) Technology Development Extension & Training (TDET) Scheme

(iii) Support to NGOs/VAs (Grants-in-Aid)

(iv) Investment Promotional Scheme (IPS)

(v) Wastelands Development Task Force (WDTF)

IWDP scheme is a flagship scheme of the Department and is being implemented on watershed basis under the new "Guidelines for Watershed Development" w.e.f. 1.4.95. Under the scheme 200 projects (128 old and 72 under new Guidelines) have been sanctioned throughout the country. In Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Orissa have been sanctioned a large number of projects under this scheme.